

May 24, 1977 Tuesday

Dear Vicki and Jimmy,

I am sure you had a wonderful trip down South and it was really nice hearing from you when you called from Miami. The Florida Keys must be a great sight to see.

We haven't been doing too much of anything, except getting some yard work accomplished. This Sunday Mary and Mike and Diane came over for Mary's birthday dinner. John Donnelly showed up which made it perfect because the four of them could play bridge while I took Diane outside to play. We each have a stick and we go slug smashing and she thinks that is a lot of fun. We take turns but very soon as it gets a little later there ~~is~~ are so many of them that we can smash as often as we want to.

When Nellie was in Sweden a short while ago she got quite a lot of information on Dad's side of the family and I think it will be quite interesting to you. Dad was happy to get the copy which is much easier to do than getting ours because there they can go to the parish in which the church was where they attended and the records are there. They go back to ~~to~~ the 1700's on the record Nellie sent.

I know you are having hot weather there. We have rainy days and sunny days so the weather is quite nice.

Tomorrow Stella and I are going to a luncheon in Seattle where we have old friends. It will be fun to see them.

The family party at Benson's was real nice and everyone was there, and we will have another one when you come. I think we will plan a picnic some place as there are so many of us. Stella said she never again will have the crowd. It is just too many, altho we all brought different foods and everything went along just fine. Diane was at Jeannie's house with a baby sitter which was a big occasion for her. The baby sitter said Diane cried only once and that was when she bit her tongue while she was eating something. We didn't stay late at Benson's so picked Diane up about ten o'clock.

We also had a nice evening at Cully and Lillian's house a couple of weeks ago. Ruthie and Jack were there too. Jack said grace at the dinner table and they both are very quiet and we all feel they are playing for us all the time. Cully and Lillian are leaving June first for their new home in Escondido.

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We are going to buy a deep freezer and I can't wait to have time and shop for it. We will have it connected in the laundry room and I think it will be so nice to fill it up with good things to eat. I am not taking the time to erase my mistakes as dad will be walking in any second now. We are having salmon for dinner tonight. When Mary and Mike were over Sunday I had lasagne and of course the birthday cake. I made everything the day before so it was very easy and I worked in the yard for several hours before they came. Thursday I have my eye appointment. Everyone is afraid I won't keep it. Mike said if I didn't go they wouldn't let Diane come over any more and dad said if I didn't keep it he wouldn't go to Salem in August to meet you two, so of course I am still planning on going. It is at Group Health and I just hate to go there, but I guess I have to.

I had better stop for now and I will write more soon. It is a beautiful late afternoon now since it rained all morning. My flowers are out and everything looks so pretty.

Love,

Mom.